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Docket No.
428291/0023
LR:DLS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Nokihisa Adachi.**

Group Art Unit: **2854**

Application No.: **10/738,548**

Examiner: **Eugene H. Eickholt**

Filed: **December 17, 2003**

For: **APPARATUS FOR REMOVING AND/OR RECOVERING INK,
PRINTING MACHINE INCLUDING SUCH APPARATUS, AND
METHOD FOR SUPPLYING AND/OR RECOVERING INK**

Date: **March 7, 2005**

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the election of species requirement in the Office Action of November 19, 2004, the time for reply to which having been extended for three months from December 19, 2004, to and including March 21, 2005 (this being the first business day after March 19, a Saturday), by the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time, Applicant provisionally elects the species identified by the Examiner as Group A, which species was defined as corresponding to Figures 1-3.

In the Office Action claim 12 was said to be generic.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5 and 7-13 read on Species A.

In accordance with Patent and Trademark Office practice, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the additional species (B-D) upon allowance of generic claim 12, in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 809.02(b).

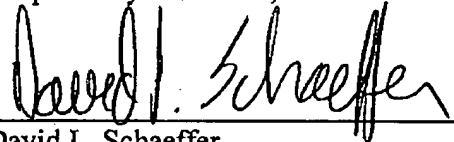
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Appln. No. 10/400,107
Response to Election of Species Requirement
filed March 7, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed November 19, 2004

Other than the extension fee authorized in the Petition for Extension of Time, no fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, if the Commissioner deems any fee to be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge that fee and any other fees now or hereafter owed to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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